

FIGHTING FOR MONEY FOR LOCAL SERVICES

Nationally, colleagues and I fought very hard to get better local funding from the recent Government Budget. In the last budget we got £2bn over 3 years and Lincolnshire has depended on this new money for the increased needs in adult care. However, this time the Chancellor's Budget announcement offered nothing to ease our financial pressures. Rising demand to support children, the elderly and disabled have not been recognised in the Budget, aside from a small disabled facilities grant.

Councils currently get to keep only 50% of the business rates, the government takes the rest, as well as our income tax. We need to keep the remaining business rates and distribute it more fairly so rural areas like ours get a better share.

In the meantime, ten Greater Lincolnshire Councils have applied to be a pilot so we can keep 100% of any *new* business rates, on a 60\40 share out between District and County Councils.

Little has been done to help us tackle homelessness. District Councils have paid for our housing, but is only allowed to keep a third of the money from any house sales. The government forces us to sell at a discount and then drains out a share for itself, leaving us short of money for a replacement. The infrastructure such as roads, schools, health facilities, needed for more houses has now shifted away from the green belt and agricultural areas to the cities. However, we need more infrastructure just for the houses we already have and have planned.

Universal Credit is very damaging in areas where it has been trialled. A week with no money at all and monthly payments in arrears mean more people using food banks and increased homelessness. The government is persisting with the roll-out, however.

Small businesses were very anxious about having to start charging VAT on behalf of the government, still threatened for the future. We need to stop taking money out of the local economy, so we have a chance to increase productivity.

We are calling for the forthcoming Local Government Finance Settlement to set out a plan of how we can run our services, now and in the future.

News from your local,
Independent Councillor,

MARIANNE OVERTON MBE



GAINING WIDE SUPPORT FOR OUR NEEDS

This month Crossbench members of the House of Lords met me to discuss our case. They debate and can amend the budget, speaking up in support of our Council services.

I also met with leading members of local government from Wales, Scotland and Ireland to make common cause and strengthen our combined case for supporting local services.

HELPING RESIDENTS IN PLANNING PROCESS

Witham Valley Park Preservation Group vs. Lincoln Proteins



The application for a new industrial meat rendering plant on the green field site at Norton Disney is not now likely to be submitted until after Christmas. The applicant is seeking a list of what needs to be included in the application. There is a new local residents' website at <https://withamvalleyppg.net/> and one on the applicants at <https://suite.endole.co.uk/insight/company/03389773-lincoln-proteins-limited>. A petition has been submitted to full Council, presented in public Dec. 15th 10.30am

Let me know your views, so I can best represent you. As I sit on the planning committee at both District and County Councils, I must retain an open mind until the vote. However, it is my job to listen and represent your views and to make sure you know and can fully access the planning process. marianne.overton@biosearch.org.uk

Highways Successes – so far!

Thanks for your support, we have our deep potholes filled, the path cleared between Leadenham and Welbourn, white lines at Aubourn, hedges cut back and more to go.

SUPPORTING COMMUNITIES

Coleby Neighbourhood Plan 14 Dec

Want control over local planning? Coleby is the latest community to “write its own rules”, within limits. Together we have created a neighbourhood plan with a huge amount of work, involving pretty much everyone. To make it legal, it must be voted through, with a referendum, held like an election. The more people to vote, the better! Please come along to support Coleby on December 14th. The Parish Council wants to encourage everyone who is registered to vote in the Parish to turn out on the 14th of December and take part in the referendum. The plan can be seen on line and Sue Mackinson-Sanders (01522 810509) is holding hard copies if anyone wishes to view it. <https://www.n-kesteven.gov.uk> search on Coleby Neighbourhood Plan

Museums

Did you know we have two museums in our area? Working Welbourn Forge (1864) is open monthly on the first Saturday. It is run by volunteers and owned by the Parish Council. Want to volunteer? 01529 308102.

Mrs Smith was in her 103rd year as she climbed the ladder to bed after a simple, healthy and happy life. Her Cottage in East Lane, Navenby was saved thanks to residents, purchased on our behalf by the District Council and is now undergoing extensive repairs, using a very substantial Heritage Lottery Grant. www.mrssmithscottage.co.uk

Half a Million for Carlton Le Moorland from the National Lottery

Attending Carlton le Moorland Parish Council this month I was delighted to support the re-building of the Village Hall, now awarded a well-deserved grant £500,000 from the National Lottery, leaving just £50,000 to go, before the start date in 2018. A huge thank you to the Fund-raising Group and community for strong support so far.

Thank you

“Thank you to everybody who supported our coffee morning on Friday. We made over £600 for Wellbeing of Women. On behalf of all the committee may I thank you all for your support and wish you a joyful Christmas and best wishes for the new year”. Beth Devonald

Congratulations

Bassingham Cub Scouts for winning the Centenary Competition with the best scrapbook of their activities over the year.

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INVITING YOU TO CONSULTATION

Street Lighting

In April 2016, the County Council began a streetlight transformation programme, in a bid to save £1.7m per year from the £5m annual streetlighting budget. As a result of the changes, around 42,000 streetlights, mainly in residential areas, are now switched off between midnight and 6am.

A scrutiny panel of councillors is now carrying out a formal review into the impact of part-night lighting, looking at topics including:

▣ the environment ▣ crime rates ▣ fears about safety and crime ▣ emergency services ▣ health and public health services ▣ the impact on businesses and evening economy

www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/streetlighting
Alternatively, call 01522 782070 Or email, Scrutiny@lincolnshire.gov.uk Before 5pm on January 5th.



Garden of Mrs Smith's Cottage Museum, by Paul Chapman of Navenby

SHARING INFORMATION

Community Grants

- At LCC, we have Wendy Moore on 01522 552223 wendy.moore@lincolnshire.gov.uk Paul.Drury@lincolnshire.gov.uk
- At NKDC, we have Anne-Marie on 01529 308267 Anne-Marie_Shepherd@n-kesteven.gov.uk
- <http://www.idoxopen4community.co.uk/lincolnshire/>
- Carlton Le Moorland Young Persons Fund Ring David Merchant on 07943 760 155
- Potterhanworth Educational Fund Yvonne Woodcock 01522 790942
- Navenby Farm Trust Contact the Parish Clerk at navenby@n-kesteven.gov.uk

European Funding for rural projects is still unspent;

European funding for improving rural economies. www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/funding

Free First Aid Training Newark Community First Aid is a charity formed run by volunteers, to provide first aid training, first aid cover at local events and associated work. The vast majority of their services are free.

SUPPORTING LOCAL EVENTS

I was honoured to switch on the lights at Navenby School Christmas Fayre and I supported the Wellingore Wreath Festival



SUPPORTING CHILDREN AND WILDLIFE

Wildlife Watch, Junior part of the Wildlife Trusts

Our Wildlife Watch Group (WKWW) meets monthly for children to meet the natural world at first hand. Any children interested, please let me know or Jean Martin 01636 612176 or jcmartin0448@gmail.com

Last month we visited the Lincolnshire Life Museum to look at the impact on wildlife of changes in farming methods. In December, the children enjoyed their annual Christmas Party of wildlife-related crafts and lunch!



DECEMBER EVENTS

- 7th Welbourn Gardening Club Village Hall 7.30pm
- 8-10th Nocton Tree Festival, All Saints Fri eve, w/e 11-4pm
- 9th Harmston Christmas Lights, Park Playing Field, Salvation Army Band and Carols 5.30pm
- 9th Festival of Music with the Banovallum Singers at All Saints, Nocton £5 incl. refreshments 7.30pm
- 13th Coleby Library and Coffee Morning 10.30-12.30am
- 13th Wellingore U3A Christmas Social Memorial Hall 11am
- 13th Senior Citizens Carol Service St Peter's Navenby 2pm
- 13-15th *Our House* Tom Firth at Sir William Robertson School 01400 272422. Tickets £5 7pm
- 14th Welbourn Gardening Club Village Hall 7pm
- 17th Boothby Graffoe Carol Service 2pm
- 17th Christmas performance of *The Elves and the Carpenter* by *Bad Apple Theatre*, 3pm
- 17th Wellingore Carol Service 4pm
- 17th Carols & Craft, Witham St Hugh Village Hall 4-5.30pm
- 17th Potterhanworth Candlelight Carol Service at St Andrews, mince pies and mulled wine too 6pm
- 17th St Chad's Carol Service, Welbourn 6pm
- 18th *All Creation Groaning* at St Peter's Navenby 3.30pm
- 19th Navenby Archaeology Group Christmas Social at the Methodist Church Hall 7.30pm
- 20th Coleby Carols on the Green 6.30pm
- 21st Boothby Graffoe Carols at the Christmas Tree 6pm
- 22nd Coleby Family Carols at All Saints 6pm
- 22nd Carols by Candlelight, Navenby Meth' Church 7pm
- 26th Welbourn's Boxing Day Walk, Primary Sch. 10.30am
- 31st Carlton Le Moorland Disco £5 01522 789631 7.30pm
- 31st Witham St Hughs Live Band and Disco and hot food Tickets essential from Seeticket.com £17.50 and £7.50 children 7pm-1am

JANUARY EVENTS

- 6th Coffee Morning Navenby Methodist Church 10am
- 6th Coffee Morning St Michael's Church, Bassingham 10.30-11.30am
- 10th Wellingore U3A Memorial Hall 10 for 10.30
- 10th Coleby Library and Coffee Morning 10.30am
- 11th Welbourn Gardener's Club at Village hall 7.30pm
- 13th Books and Butties at Wellingore Memorial Hall 10am
- 13th Bracebridge Heath Village Hall *Unsung Lincolnshire Women* by Chrissy Chapman 1.45-4pm
- 16th Navenby Archaeology Group at the Methodist Church Hall *Metalwork and Monuments* 7.30pm
- 19th Catherine Roberts and Sean Lakeman at Harmston Memorial Hall Tickets from Thorold Arms £10 7.45pm
- 20th St Peter's Coffee Morning, Navenby 10.30am
- 24th Tea at 3pm Wellingore Memorial Hall 2.30-4pm
- 27th Coffee Morning at Navenby Methodist Church 10am
- 30th Carers Support Group Wellingore Memorial Ha. 2-4

USEFUL REFERENCES

Access to Wellbeing Services and care

The Carers service 01522 782224
carers_team@lincolnshire.gov.uk
Support for Adult care is available 01522 782155
The Wellbeing service will help set up and people in a vulnerable position with finance, transport, support groups etc. 01522 782140

Roadworks

roadworks@lincolnshire.gov.uk
To receive info' on twitter #lincscs_roads

Help save lives and keep countryside clean

Report Potholes 01522 782070
www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/faultreporting
Or use www.FixMyStreet.com
Report Litter 01529 414155
customer_services@n-kesteven.gov.uk
Report illegal parking 01522 511142 or
ParkingServices@lincolnshire.gov.uk
Lincs 2 Advice are on 0300 303 8789
Non urgent Health 111, Police 101, Electricity breaks 105
Fraud 0300 123 2040
Grants community_lincs@n-kesteven.gov.uk
Career Service 0800 100 900

Transport and Travel

Call Connect 8.30am - 7pm Weekdays and to 5pm
Saturdays 0345 234 33 44 or 01522 553143
www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/callconnect/35955.article
Dial a ride 01522 544983 Disabled door to door
Car-sharing www.lincshare.co.uk
Trains www.thetrainline.com
Local Plan www.central-lincs.org.uk 01529 308084

Planning on line

See and comment on applications to get your voice heard.
Search "planning on line north Kesteven"

Village websites

Withamstaple.com; nocton.blogspot.co.uk
www.facebook.com/groups/WhatOnInNocton
www.facebook.com/groups/455116074527966/ Navenby
and Wellingore business
<http://parishes.lincolnshire.gov.uk/NavenbyincSkindand/>
www.harmston.info
<http://parishes.lincolnshire.gov.uk/Bassingham/>
<https://dunstondossier.org.uk>
Branston <http://www.tucann.co.uk/the-sheepwash-times>
Branston Library 01522 880426
www.parishes.lincolnshire.gov.uk/Potterhanworth
Welbourn, Leadenham and Coleby have sites on LCC.

NATIONAL ACTION, LOCAL BENEFIT

I have been working on creating a Community Garden in Navenby and helping Bassingham get its village signs. Also, I have worked hard on Highways, including the path to school at Welbourn. Please keep reporting potholes. If the pothole has not been reported, there is no claim possible.

This month with the national Local Government Association, I have been running training and conferences to encourage fellow councillors in Sleaford, Lincoln, Mansfield, Wales, London. Fellow District Councillor, Cllr Catherine Mills joined me at Warwick University. I also spoke at conferences for a better local democracy, gaining support at *Unlock Democracy* and the *Fawcett Society*.

You may have heard me on the radio campaigning for better local funding. This month on radio, I also encouraged people to seek support to help tackle debt at the earliest stages. The Council (NKDC) employs people to advise residents and supports the Citizen's Advice Bureau to give Independent Advice.

I look forward to seeing you out and about. Let me know if you would like help, or like to help, with anything!

Kindest regards and very best wishes of the season.

Marianne

Marianne Overton MBE

Thanks to councillor colleagues, Lincolnshire Independents in shared or adjacent areas. Peter Lundgren, Catherine Mills and Steve Clegg



Wishing you all a Happy Christmas and peace and success throughout 2018.